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FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK 11//
TO JERRY BREMER FOR THE SECRETARY
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T O P S E C R E T CONTAINS CODEWORD SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY
VIA BLACK PATCH WH42631

TOHAK 11

SEPTEMBER 24, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER
FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM
SUBJECT: NOON NOTES

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

PRIME MINISTER OF LEBANON MAY RESIGN: LEBANESE PRIME MINISTER SULH REPORTEDLY INDICATED TO JOURNALISTS AFTER A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FRANJIYAH SUNDAY THAT HE WOULD RESIGN WITHIN A FEW DAYS. THE LEBANESE LEADER APPARENTLY HAS BEEN UNABLE TO RESOLVE THE CONFLICT WITHIN THE CABINET THAT HAS CENTERED AROUND HIS GOVERNMENT'S INABILITY TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH INTERNAL SECURITY PROBLEMS. ACCORDING TO THE U.S. EMBASSY IN BEIRUT, SULH MAY ATTEMPT TO SUCCEED HIMSELF BY SIMPLY REARRANGING HIS CABINET -- PERHAPS WITH THE ADDITION OF SOME NEW FACES. SHOULD THIS TACTIC FAIL, SULH MAY HEAD A CARETAKER GOVERNMENT FOR A PROTRACTED PERIOD.

LISBON OFFICIAL TO VISIT MACAO: PORTUGUESE MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS TERRITORIES, ALMEIDA SANTOS, APPARENTLY WILL VISIT MACAO SOON FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH CHINESE AND PORTUGUESE LEADERS THERE ON THE STATUS OF THE PROVINCE. ALTHOUGH LISBON IS IN THE PROCESS OF GIVING UP ITS AFRICAN COLONIES, THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY BELIEVES THERE IS LITTLE CHANCE THAT THE VISIT WILL RESULT IN ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN MACAO'S RELATIONSHIP WITH PEKING.

FRANCE TO INCREASE ITS DEFENSE BUDGET: THE FRENCH COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAS APPROVED AN INCREASE IN DEFENSE SPENDING OF AROUND \$1.1 BILLION IN THE 1975 NATIONAL BUDGET SUBMITTED LAST WEEK. THE OUTLAY FOR DEFENSE IS ABOUT 14 PERCENT GREATER THAN THIS YEAR'S, BUT THE INCREASE ALMOST ENTIRELY REFLECTS THE IMPACT OF INFLATION ON DEFENSE COSTS. THE BUDGET NOW GOES TO THE FRENCH PARLIAMENT FOR CONSIDERATION. NO DETAILED BREAKDOWN WAS GIVEN, BUT

_____ RISING PERSONNEL COSTS CAUSED PRESIDENT GISCARD TO SHIFT SOME FUNDS FROM RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TO MILITARY HARDWARE PRODUCTION AND TO THE OPERATIONS BUDGET.

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SOVIET SUBS STAY LONGER IN MEDITERRANEAN: MOSCOW'S F-CLASS DIESEL SUBMARINES ARE MAKING TOURS OF MUCH LONGER DURATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN NOW THAT THE SOVIETS ARE MAKING INCREASED USE OF PORT

DOS, NAVY Reviews Completed

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FACILITIES IN EGYPT AND SYRIA. SIX F-CLASS SUBMARINES AND A TENDER ENTERED THE MEDITERRANEAN EARLIER THIS MONTH, RELIEVING SEVEN SUBMARINES AND A TENDER THAT HAD BEEN THERE FOR ABOUT A YEAR. THIS STAY WAS TWICE AS LONG AS PREVIOUS TOURS FOR F-CLASS SUBMARINES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

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